



Vermont Department of Education

December 2006

(Due to the Holiday Season, there will only be one *Bulletin* in December.)

The Bulletin's Guidelines and recent four issues can be found at
http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm_coordhealth/resources.html.

(To unsubscribe or subscribe, contact Kate Lampel Link at kate.link@state.vt.us. Thank you.)

2006-2007 School Wellness Grants Awarded

A total of \$30,000 was awarded to 14 projects meeting one or both of the requirements:

- Assess the school's physical activity and nutrition policies and programs using a tool such as the *School Health Index* and develop a school health improvement plan based on the results.
- Develop and implement activities based on the adopted School Wellness Policy and the *Vermont Nutrition and Fitness Policy Guidelines*.

Congratulations go out to: Crossett Brook Middle School, Westminster Schools, East Montpelier Elementary School, Elm Hill School, North Country Union High School, Orleans Central SU, Riverside Middle School, Mettawee Community School, South Royalton School, John F. Kennedy School, Grand Isle School, Salisbury Community School, Milton Elementary School and the Danville School. If you would like more information about the School Wellness Grants, contact Lindsay Simpson at lindsay.simpson@state.vt.us.

Health Services Screening Report for 2006-2007

The link to the annual reporting tool is now available on the Vermont Department of Education's Web site at http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm_coordhealth.html. This link is provided for school nurses to use in completing their school's 2006-2007 Health Services Screening Report. Reports must be received by the department no later than June 1, 2007. For questions, contact Karen Abbott at (802) 828-0542 or karen.abbott@state.vt.us.

Giving Kids the Voice of Authority: Engaging Students in the Fight Against Childhood Obesity

Actions for Healthy Kids provides this Field Report showcasing Massachusetts's "Students Taking Charge Initiative." Using a modified version of the *School Health Index*, students

assessed needs, developed a toolkit and implemented wellness programs in six communities. To learn about their successes in these student-driven efforts, visit http://www.actionforhealthykids.org/special_exclusive.php and see other Field Reports including one on engaging parents in similar efforts.

Free Downloadable Resources on Healthy Schools

The National Association of State Boards of Education announces new resources including:

Calories In, Calories Out Conference Proceedings

http://www.nasbe.org/publications/Calories_In_Calories_Out/CICO_nonmember.html

Explore presentations conducted at the 2006 conference where state and industry partners met to hear expert analysis and learn about successful programs and policies in relation to nutrition and physical education.

Fit, Healthy, and Ready to Learn, Part III: Policies on Asthma, School Health Services, and Healthy Environments

http://www.nasbe.org/healthy_schools/FHRTL.htm

This latest chapter (Chapter H) added to Fit, Healthy, and Ready to Learn includes best practices and policy language related to asthma and other chronic health conditions.

Creating Safe Places to Learn – July 2006 Issue of The State Education Standard

<http://www.nasbe.org/Standard/index.html>

The eight feature articles are available for download including crisis planning for schools, creating safe school facilities, bullying prevention and intervention, sport or recreation injury protection, graduated licensing for teenage drivers, and more.

Grant and Funding Opportunities:

- 1. Lowes Toolbox for Education Program** – Any non-profit K12 school or associated parent group can apply. Projects that encourage parent involvement and build stronger community spirit will be favored. Up to \$5,000 per school is available. **Deadline is February 15, but the grant opportunity will close after the first 1,500 applicants.** For more information, go to <http://www.toolboxforeducation.com>.
- 2. Games for Health Contest** – The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation will award \$30,000 to entrants who develop video or computer game concepts or prototypes aimed at improving aspects of health and healthcare. The competition is open to U.S. residents over the age of 18. Entrants are encouraged to involve representatives from healthcare, and the audience that would benefit from the game, in the development of the concept and its execution. Contest details may be found at <http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/10005097/gamesforhealth>.
- 3. Nickelodeon has extended its Let's Just Play Giveaway Program through the end of this year.** In December, Nickelodeon will give \$5,000 to randomly selected winners. Children ages 6 to 15 years of age can apply for their school or after-school community-based organization to win funding for projects that promote play and physical activity. For more information, go to <http://www.nickjr.com/> or <http://www.nick.com/>.

- 4. Physical education teachers encouraged to apply for Phys Ed grants.** The Future Fisherman Foundation has \$200,000 in grant funding for physical education teachers to incorporate fishing and boating education into their curricula, offering up to \$5,000 in individual grants. Funds can be used for equipment, field trips, curriculum materials and other resources to assist instructors in carrying out fishing and boating education. **Applications must be received on or before Friday, March 2, 2007 at 5:00 p.m.** To obtain application forms or for more information, visit <http://www.futurefisherman.org> or contact PE Grants Coordinator Jesse Graytock at jgraytock@asafishing.org or 703-519-9691, x224.

Professional Development Opportunities:

For a Calendar of Department of Education-Sponsored Events go to <http://www.state.vt.us/educ/new/html/dept/calendar.html>.

Center for Health and Learning provides a variety of professional development opportunities. For a complete schedule, visit the calendar at <http://www.healthandlearning.org> or call (802) 254-6590. Here are some upcoming events:

Know Your Body – Curriculum Orientation and Planning Workshop for New and Experienced Teachers – Dec. 15, Brattleboro

Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Education (fulfills Act 51 requirements):

Jan. 11-12, Montpelier

Mar. 27-28, Rutland

Communication Saves Lives: Preventing Teen Suicide – Jan. 11, Bennington

Taste of YogaKids – Jan. 12, Montpelier

Legal Issues in School Nursing - This presentation, part of the 2006-07 Nursing Grand Rounds program, will take place Tuesday, January 9 from 3:15-4:45 p.m. via Vermont Interactive Television. The speaker is Mia Karvonides, Policy Attorney from the Vermont Department of Education and Former Drug Court Coordinator for the State of Vermont Judicial Branch. Register by phone at (802) 656-2179 or online at <http://www.vtahec.org/nursinggrandrounds>.

Safer Choices: Preventing HIV, Other STDs, and Pregnancy Curriculum Training - This is an evidence-based, upper middle and high school curriculum that addresses attitudes and beliefs, social skills, knowledge, and media and other influences in order to prevent HIV infection, other STDs and unintended pregnancy.

Dates/Times: February 7 and 8, 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Location: The Swift House Inn, Middlebury

Cost: \$145 includes two-day workshop fee AND curriculum

Register: Call Karen Abbott at (802) 828-0542

Reminder: To unsubscribe, or subscribe, to the *Linking Health & Learning Bulletin*, contact Kate Lampel Link at kate.link@state.vt.us. Wishing all a healthy holiday season.